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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

12-31-01  
In re Application of

Charles J. STOUFFER et al.

Serial No.: 09/434,507

Group Art Unit: 3727

Filed: November 5, 1999

Examiner: S. Pollard

For: HIGH TEMPERATURE ISOSTATIC  
PRESSURE BONDING OF HOLLOW  
BERYLLIUM PRESSURE VESSELS  
USING A BONDING FLANGE

\*\*\*\*\*  
PETITION TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT  
\*\*\*\*\*

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully asks that the holding of abandonment concerning the above-identified application be withdraw as erroneous. The Brief on Appeal and a check for the \$320.00 appeal brief fee were timely submitted for this application on October 31, 2001 (the due date being November 5, 2001).

Applicant thanks Acting Group Director Joe Hale for the courtesy extended in the telephone conference of December 28, 2001 and his kind assistance in helping the undersigned understand this erroneous holding of abandonment. During the telephone conference Mr. Hale confirmed that Applicant's \$320.00 check for the appeal brief fee had been deposited and that the

Date: December 28, 2001

Atty. Dkt. No.: 2288-006

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**PETITION TO WITHDRAW ABANDONMENT HOLDING**  
**Application No. 09/434,507**

**PATENT APPLICATION**

PTO had credited Applicant with a mailroom date of October 31, 2001 for the Brief on Appeal in this application. Mr. Hale indicated that it was likely that the Brief itself had become lost within the PTO, resulting in the holding of abandonment.

Accordingly, three copies of the Brief on Appeal, as filed October 31, 2001, are submitted herewith to replace the ones that appear to have become lost in the PTO.

In support of this petition, three exhibits are attached. *Exhibit A* is a photocopy of the transmittal letter, submitted on October 31, 2001, accompanying the triplicate Brief on Appeal and check for the required fee. The cover sheet bears the Express Mail Label No. EL884787144US. *Exhibit B* is a photocopy of the corresponding return post card filing receipt, confirming receipt of the Brief on Appeal and check with a mailroom date of October 31, 2001. *Exhibit C* is a photocopy of the Express Mail Receipt (#EL884787144US) bearing "date in" markings indicating posting on October 31, 2001.

No fee is believed to be due in this matter since the holding of abandonment is based entirely on an error by the PTO.

However, in the event it is determined that a fee is necessary for consideration of this petition, the Director of Patents and Trademarks is authorized to charge such petition fee to Deposit

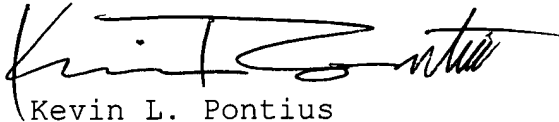
**PETITION TO WITHDRAW ABANDONMENT HOLDING**  
**Application No. 09/434,507**

**PATENT APPLICATION**

Account No. 18-1579. Furthermore, the Director is authorized to charge any necessary fees (including the Issue Fee), and conversely, deposit any credit balance, to Deposit Account No. 18-1579.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERTS ABOKHAIR & MARDULA, LLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin L. Pontius", written over a horizontal line.

Kevin L. Pontius  
Registration No. 37,512

ROBERTS ABOKHAIR & MARDULA, LLC  
11800 SUNRISE VALLEY DRIVE  
SUITE 1000  
RESTON, VA 20191  
(703) 391-2900



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

re Application of

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL No.:  
EL 884787144 US

D-31-01 Charles J. STOUFFER et al.

Serial No.: 09/434,507

Group Art Unit: 3727

Filed: November 5, 1999

Examiner: S. Pollard

For: HIGH TEMPERATURE ISOSTATIC  
PRESSURE BONDING OF HOLLOW  
BERYLLIUM PRESSURE VESSELS  
USING A BONDING FLANGE

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find the following:

1. Brief on Appeal (one original and two copies); and
2. Check for fee of \$320.00 (appeal fee).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 18-1579. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-1579 for any future fees connected in any way to this application. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERTS ABOKHAIR & MARDULA, LLC

Kevin L. Pontius  
Reg. No. 37,512  
(703) 391-2900

Date: October 31, 2001

Atty. Dkt. No.: 2238-006

**Exhibit A**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND  
INTERFERENCES

In re Application of Charles J. STOUFFER et al.

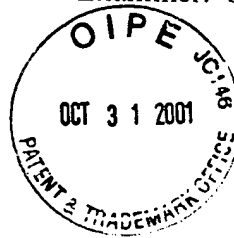
Serial No.: 09/434,507

Group Art Unit: 3727

Filed: November 5, 1999

Examiner: S. Pollard

For: HIGH TEMPERATURE  
ISOSTATIC PRESSURE  
BONDING OF HOLLOW  
BERYLLIUM PRESSURE  
VESSELS USING A BONDING  
FLANGE



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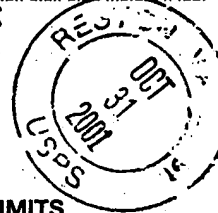
Exhibit B



# POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE



EL 884787144 US



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Customer Copy  
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ORIGIN (POSTAL USE ONLY)			
PO ZIP Code <b>20190</b>	Day of Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> First <input type="checkbox"/> Second	Flat Rate Envelope <input type="checkbox"/>	
Date In <b>10/31/01</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Noon <input type="checkbox"/> 3 PM	Postage <b>\$16.25</b>	
Time In <b>4:45 PM</b>	Military <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Day <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Day	Return Receipt Fee	
Weight <b>13.90</b>	Int'l Alpha Country Code	COD Fee	Insurance Fee
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FROM: (PLEASE PRINT) PHONE **703, 341-2900**

**ROBERTS ABOKHAIR & MARDULA, LL**  
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**SUITE 1000**  
**RESTON VA 20191-5302**

**Swans AX 2288-012**

Federal Agency Acct. No. or  
Postal Service Acct. No.

TO: (PLEASE PRINT) PHONE

**Commissioner for Patents**  
**Washington, DC 20231**

FOR PICKUP OR TRACKING CALL 1-800-222-1811 [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)



Exhibit C